

1988 – 2008: Celebrating 20 Years of Environmental Justice!

ADVANCING CLIMATE JUSTICE: TRANSFORMING THE ECONOMY, PUBLIC HEALTH & OUR ENVIRONMENT

January 29 – 30, 2009

Pope Auditorium
Fordham University School of Law
33 West 60th Street, New York City



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Conference Speakers

Plenary Speakers

David Doniger
Dr. Howard Frumkin
Dr. James Hansen
Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig

Guest Speakers

Rohit Aggarwala
Dr. Julian Agyeman
Paul Baer
Julia Bonds
Dr. Robert Bullard
Nelson Carrasquillo
Luke Cole
Dr. Allen Dearry
Julian Drix
Bill Gallegos
Jihan Gearon
Dr. Ken Geiser
Peter Goldmark
Tom Goldtooth
Gary Grant
Pam Graybeal
Mary Ann Hitt
Savi Horne
Peter Iwanowicz
Dr. Dale Jamieson
Burt Lauderdale
Eric Mann
Dr. Manuel Pastor
Mark Rossi
Dr. Willi Semmler
Dr. Nicky Sheats
Dr. Dorceta Taylor
Dr. Beverly Wright

Call To Action

We come together as a Climate Justice Movement on these January days to raise our voices and lead our community and country down the path toward achieving a *just, responsible* and *sane* climate-changed future by advocating for policies and programs that protect the most vulnerable communities of our country and demanding action to create a just transition to a clean, renewable energy economy and future.

For more information, contact:

(212) 961-1000, extension 333, climatejustice@weact.org
www.weact.org/conference

Sponsors



FORD FOUNDATION



WE ACT for Environmental Justice is a non-profit, community-based, environmental justice organization dedicated to building community power to improve environmental health, protection and policy in communities of color.

AGENDA AT A GLANCE

THURSDAY

January 29, 2009

8:00 AM	Registration and Continental Breakfast
9:00	Welcome Address
9:15 – 9:30	Opening Climate Crisis Vignettes
9:45 – 11:00	Plenary Session Climate Justice: Framing the Climate Crisis
11:00 – 12:00	Plenary Session Climate Justice Advocacy in Light of the Climate Crisis
12:00 PM	LUNCH
1:15 – 2:30	Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice and Public Health <i>5 Workshops Examining the Public Health Impacts of Climate Change and the Need to Incorporate a Climate Justice Perspective Into Public Health Advocacy</i>
2:45 – 4:00	Workshop Sessions: The Economics of Climate Justice <i>5 Workshops Examining the Impacts of Climate Change on the Economy and the Economic Opportunities that Climate Justice is Advancing</i>
4:15 – 5:00	Closing Plenary

FRIDAY

January 30, 2009

8:00 – 9:00	Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30	Welcome Address
9:45 – 10:45	Plenary Session Climate Justice Advocacy: Translating What We Know About Climate Change Into Action
10:45 – 11:00	BREAK
11:00 – 12:00	Plenary Session The Politics of Climate Change: Achieving Federal Climate Justice Policies
12:00 – 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:15 – 2:30	Workshops Sessions: Climate Justice Opportunities <i>6 Workshops examining the Politics of Climate Justice, including local policy initiatives and advocacy pathways for climate justice through policy, and Climate Justice Adaptation and Opportunities, looking at needs and opportunities for change created in environmental justice communities by climate change</i>
2:45 – 4:00	Workshops: Advocating for Climate Justice <i>6 Workshops providing the opportunity for participants to mobilize through their communities and create concrete action plans and policy goals to achieve climate justice</i>
4:15 – 5:45	Closing Plenary: Climate Justice: Art as Activism

THURSDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 29, 2009

Plenary Sessions: Pope Auditorium

WELCOME AND OPENING PLENARIES**8:00 AM****Registration and Continental Breakfast****9:00 – 9:10****Welcome Address****9:15 – 9:30****Opening:****Climate Crisis Vignettes***Residents facing local impacts and environmental crises created by or based in climate change will discuss those impacts and how they have affected their lives and communities.***9:45 – 11:00****Plenary Session #1:****Climate Justice: Framing the Climate Crisis***Looking at climate change from a climate justice perspective, speakers will discuss the scope of climate change including its domestic and local impacts.***Plenary Session #2:****Climate Justice Advocacy in Light of the Climate Crisis***In light of the efforts advancing climate change policy and advocacy internationally, speakers will consider how scientists, economists, academics, activists and others can come together domestically to advocate for climate justice policies.***11:00 – 12:00****Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice and Public Health****1:15 – 2:30 PM****Achieving Climate Justice: Climate Change and Public Health***Looking at the public health impacts of climate change, speakers will examine the adaptation opportunities available to protect vulnerable populations from current and future impacts associated with climate change.***Climate Justice & Public Health: Increased Public Health Impacts in Vulnerable Areas***Focusing on environmental justice communities, speakers will discuss the increased vulnerability to heat, infectious diseases and air pollution created by climate change.***Climate Justice & Public Health: Food Justice and Climate Change***The emerging food justice movement presents an opportunity for the advancement of environmental justice communities. Speakers will discuss this as well as the global ecology of climate change, the changing food economy and the impacts of climate change on access to and availability of food.***Climate Justice & Public Health: Green Chemistry and Sustainability***Green chemistry is an essential pillar to our transition to a clean, green economy. Speakers will examine the wide range of areas that green chemistry impacts, including sustainable building, energy and green jobs.***Climate Justice & Public Health: Gender and Climate Justice***Just as climate change will have disparate impacts on different communities, the impacts of climate change in areas around the country are demonstrating the different impacts that climate change has on gender. Panelists will discuss impacts of climate change from a gendered perspective and examine opportunities for increased equity and justice for impacted gender communities.*

THURSDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 29, 2009

Workshops Sessions: The Economics of Climate Justice**2:45 – 4:00 PM****Achieving Climate Justice: The Economics of Climate Change**

Looking broadly at the disparate economic impacts of climate change and the opportunities for economic growth and advancement created by climate change, panelists will lay the groundwork for an understanding of the Economics of Climate Change.

The Economics of Climate Justice: Needs and Opportunities for Transportation Equity

Speakers will consider the opportunity for increased transportation equity in a climate-changed future. Topics covered will include transportation as an economic right, transportation access needs of environmental justice communities, and transportation policy opportunities available to prepare for and mitigate against climate change impacts.

The Economics of Climate Justice: Energy Use and Dependence

As the impacts of climate change become clear and communities move toward addressing and limiting future climate change, energy use, dependability and source opportunities are a critical component of any conversation. Panelists will examine both how climate change impacts energy options and what choices need to be made to enable a swift, just transition to a clean, reliable, safe, and just energy future.

The Economics of Climate Justice: Sustainable (re)Development & Economic Growth

While economic growth is already impacted by climate change, it also represents an opportunity for communities to take advantage of the green sector. Panelists will consider the links between climate change and sustainable development or redevelopment in vulnerable communities and what opportunities exist for businesses, communities and workers to advance the Climate Justice Movement.

The Economics of Climate Justice: Sustainability and Just Transitions

As actors working to advance sustainability through projects and initiatives, panelists will engage in a dialogue on how to incorporate an environmental justice framework into sustainability efforts and how those efforts advance climate justice.

Closing Plenary**4:15 – 5:00****Achieving Climate Justice: Conversations about Climate Justice**

Following the model set by the climate crisis vignettes, individual climate advocates will provide brief insights into how climate change has impacted their communities and how they have worked to achieve climate justice in response to these impacts.

5:15 – 6:30***Conference Reception***

FRIDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 29, 2009

Plenary Sessions: Pope Auditorium

WELCOME AND OPENING PLENARIES**8:00 AM****9:00 – 9:30****9:45 – 10:45****Registration and Continental Breakfast****Welcome Address**

Plenary Session #1: Climate Justice Advocacy: Translating What We Know about Climate Change Into Action

In light of the economic and public health impacts of climate change, policy solutions must protect current and future populations – particularly the most vulnerable communities. Panelists from the Climate Justice Movement will consider the opportunities for a broad range of advocacy around climate justice and the efforts that are occurring nationally and internationally to demand justice in climate change policies.

10:45 – 11:00***BREAK*****11:00 – 12:00**

Plenary Session #2: The Politics of Climate Change: Achieving Federal Climate Justice Policies

Policymakers and advocates working to advance national climate justice policies will discuss current federal climate change proposals, whether those policies incorporate the Climate Justice Principles, and the potential impact of federal climate change policy on environmental justice communities.

12:00 – 1:00***LUNCH*****Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice Opportunities****1:15 – 2:30 PM**

The Politics of Climate Change: Local Climate Policies and Initiatives

While climate change policies are being discussed at the federal level, they have already been implemented in localities throughout the country. The implementation of local policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change creates an opportunity for advocacy. Panelists will discuss the climate change initiatives their localities have implemented and the inclusion of climate justice within these policies.

The Politics of Climate Change: Evaluating Climate Change Policies

As governments move forward aggressively with implementing policies to address climate change, debate continues about effective and just climate change policies. Panelists will discuss the range of climate change policies that have been set forth, the perceived and experienced outcomes of these policies and the justice position of each policy.

The Politics of Climate Change: Achieving Sustainability through Government Programs, Regulations and Legal Action

Traditional tools of advocacy including regulation and litigation are influencing the politics of climate change. Looking at these tools, panelists will assess the opportunities for the advancement of climate justice in government agencies, programs and the legal arena.

FRIDAY

AGENDA

Jan. 29, 2009

Workshop Sessions: Climate Justice Opportunities (cont.)

1:15 – 2:30 PM

Climate Justice Adaptation: Public Health and Emergency Preparedness

Looking at the whole system of emergency preparedness, panelists will consider the ability of local health departments to meet the needs of vulnerable populations and the impact of climate change on the urgency of these needs and the severity of the potential impacts.

Climate Justice Adaptation: Community and Individual Response Opportunities

As public awareness about climate change and climate justice grows, communities are seeking opportunities to educate residents on individual responses they can take to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Panelists will examine what people can do in their homes, schools, workplaces and communities to address climate change and the advocacy opportunities that are available to increase awareness of these individual community responses.

Climate Justice Opportunities: Green Jobs and a Climate Changed Workforce

An essential pillar of the Climate Justice Movement is taking advantage of the opportunities created by climate change and the global shift toward sustainable to create clean, green, safe jobs and funnel those jobs toward traditionally under- and unemployed communities. Panelists will examine who has been involved in the policy groundwork structuring the green job workforce and what are the opportunities and necessary steps to ensure that climate justice is included in the green job economy.

Workshop Sessions: Advocating for Climate Justice

2:45 – 4:00 PM

Facilitators will work to bring together dynamic group brainstorming sessions that examine opportunities for climate justice advocacy among communities and create policy deliverables and long-term advocacy networks.

Climate Justice and the Campus**Climate Justice and Houses of Worship****Climate Justice and Local Communities****Climate Justice and Business****Climate Justice, Government Actors and Legal Tools****Climate Justice and Academic Advocacy****Climate Justice and the Environmental Justice Movement:**

The Environmental Justice Leadership Forum on Climate Change

4:15 – 5:30

Closing Plenary**Climate Justice: Art as Activism**